

Message Text

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ACTION SSM-05

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UNCLAS SINAI 0813

FOR SSM/KONTOS AND PENDLETON FROM HUNT

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: CAIRO R & R FACILITIES

1. WE HAVE CONTINUED EXPERIENCE SERIOUS DIFFICULTIES WITH HOTEL ARRANGEMENTS IN CAIRO. THE HOTEL HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY CANNOT OR WILL NOT COMPLY WITH THE CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENT. AS YOU KNOW WE HAVE A CONTRACT FOR NINE ROOMS AND THE HOTEL ONLY MAKES AN EFFORT TO PROVIDE FIVE. WHEN THEY HAVE DIFFICULTIES WE HAVE SOMETIMES BEEN REDUCED TO EVEN FEWER ROOMS, AND SFM STAFF HAS CONSISTENTLY DOUBLED IN ROOMS AND ON OCCASION THREE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN IN ONE ROOM. I KNOW THAT LAST WEEK THE USGLO SPENT ONLY TWO NIGHTS DURING THE ENTIRE WEEK IN THE SAME ROOM. TWO OR THREE OF THE NIGHTS THERE WERE SPENT IN OTHER HOTELS.

2. WE HAVE FULLY EXPLORED ALTERNATIVE ARRANGEMENTS INCLUDING THE IDEA OF SPLITTING HOTELS. BILL YOU WILL RECALL THAT I WANTED TO TAKE FOUR OR FIVE ROOMS IN THE SHEPHERDS' HOTEL AND THE BALANCE AT A SUBURBAN HOTEL, TO BE USED FOR R & R PURPOSES. T.J. ARCHER HAS COMPLETELY CANVASSED ALL HOTELS AND HAS FOUND ONLY ONE MEAN-

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INGFUL ALTERNATIVE WHICH IS DISCUSSED BELOW. SHEPHERDS WAS NOT INTERESTED IN A CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENT AT THIS TIME.

3. MENA HOUSE HAS AGREED TO PROVIDE ROOMS ON CONTRACTUAL BASIS BUT THEY HAVE INSISTED THAT BREAKFAST AND ONE OTHER MEAL BE INCLUDED

IN THE DAILY RATES WHICH IS \$41.26. MIKE KAPPLE HAS SENT A PROPOSAL TO GREENVILLE RECOMMENDING TEN ROOMS AT THE MENA HOUSE AT THIS INCREASED RATE. HOWEVER, I HAVE JUST BEEN INFORMED THAT T.J. ARCHER HAS BEEN ABLE TO GET EXCEPTION FROM THE REQUIRED MEALS WHICH WILL LOWER THE DAILY PRICE FOR THE COMS BY APPRIMATELY \$6.70. THIS WOULD PUT THE COST FOR THE MENA HOUSE ROOMS IN THE \$34 RANGE OR APPROXIMATELY \$4.00 MORE THAN WE PAY THE JOLLIE VILLE. YOU ARE BOTH AWARE OF THE HOTEL SITUATION IN CAIRO AND I THINK YOU WILL AGREE THIS IS THE BEST DEAL WE ARE LIKELY TO GET.

4. WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING WHETHER MENA HOUSE WILL FULFILL ITS OBLIGATIONS UNDER A CONTRACT. IT IS A LARGER CHAIN HOTEL AND I WOULD THINK THEY WOULD BE MORE CAREFUL TO MEET CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS. MOREOVER I BELIEVE THEY WOULD BE MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO PRESSURE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF EGYPT IF PROBLEMS ARISE, AND FRANKLY IT COULDN'T HELP BUT BE A BETTER ARRANGEMENT THAN THE ONE AT THE JOLLIE VILLE. AS YOU KNOW E SYSTEMS IS WHENEVER POSSIBLE HAVING NEW EMPLOYEES ARRIVE THROUGH CAIRO WHICH I THINK IS DESIRABLE. THEY BELIEVE

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THAT THEY CAN JUSTIFY NINE ROOMS AND I WOULD LIKE TO ADD A TENTH ROOM, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS WILL GUARANTEE THE LIAISON OFFICER A ROOM DURING HIS TDY IN CAIRO.

5. I HOPE YOU WILL GIVE PRIORITY CONSIDERATION TO THIS PROBLEM. ARCHER IS LEAVING SOON AND WE WOULD LIKE TO WRAP UP THE ARRANGEMENT BEFORE HE LEAVES SINCE HE IS MOST FAMILIAR WITH THE DETAILS. THEY WILL HAVE TO GIVE THE JOLLIE THIRTY DAYS' NOTICE AND IF POSSIBLE WE WOULD LIKE TO HAVE ARCHER DO THIS ON THURSDAY OR FRIDAY APRIL 20-21. I FULLY SUPPORT THIS REQUEST AND WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR EARLY CONSIDERATION.

HUNT

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